

WONG CABELLO LUTSCH RUTHERFORD & BRUCCULERI, LLP

Serial No.: 10/714,359
Reply to Office Action of May 20, 2004**II. Remarks In Response to the Office Action****A. General Remarks**

Claims 1-104 were pending in the application prior to this reply. Claims 1-56 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 57-104 are pending in the application.

B. Election/Restrictions

Applicants affirm the election of Group III (claims 56-104), and Applicants have cancelled claims 1-55 as drawn to unelected inventions. The election of Group III (claims 56-104) is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

C. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**1. Claims 56, 66, 75, 78, and 84 Are Not Anticipated by Chaze**

Claims 56, 66, 75, 78 and 84 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chaze (U.S. Pat. No. 2,551,095). Of the listed claims, claim 56 has been canceled. In addition, claims 66, 75, 78, and 84 have been amended to depend respectively from claims 57, 81, 57, 85, which are believed allowable. Therefore, the rejection of claims 56, 66, 75, 78, and 84 is considered moot, and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate the allowance of these claims in the next paper from the Office.

2. Claims 56, 71, 78 and 79 Are Not Anticipated by Josuttis et al.

Claims 56, 71, 78, and 79 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Josuttis et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,572,216). Of the listed claims, claim 56 has been cancelled. In addition, claims 71 and 78-79 have been amended to depend respectively from claims 81 and 57, which are believed allowable. Therefore, the rejection of claims 56, 71, 78, and 79 is considered moot, and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate the allowance of these claims in the next paper from the Office.

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Claims 82-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Chaze (U.S. Pat. No. 2,551,095). Claims 82-83 have been amended to depend from claim 85, which is believed to be allowable. Therefore, the rejection of claims 82-83 is considered moot, and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate the allowance of these claims in the next paper from the Office.

E. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 57-65, 67-70, 72-74, 76-77, 80-81, and 85-104 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten claims 57, 58, 65, 67, 68, 72, 76, 80, 81, 85, and 104 in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 77 has been amended merely to correct a typographical error. Claims 66 and 78-79 have been amended to depend from claim 57; claims 71 and 75 have been amended to depend from claim 81; and claims 82-84 have been amended to depend from claim 85. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 57-104 are in proper form for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner indicate the allowance of these claims in the next paper from the Office.

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To facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion, reconsideration, and allowance of the claims.


WONG CABELLO LUTSCH RUTHERFORD & BRUCCULERI, LLP

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Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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